

J.S. Osborne

August 6, 1974

G.E. Inskip

Sparging of Tobacco #PM 646

My impression is that you may have two inventions and possibly more. That is, item (3) of your memo of August 2, 1974, may be distinct from the other items. Nevertheless, for convenience I believe we can put these in a single disclosure, leaving it to the attorneys how best to file and what to claim. I suggest we transmit what information we now have available, so that work can get under way. A search may show that certain items are not novel, but until then we should assume otherwise and proceed without delay.

I take it from our discussions a working definition of sparging might be the treatment of (cured?) (cut?) tobacco by a flow of inert gas at about 165°C for sufficient time to approach constant weight, with recovery from the gas of condensable constituents.

We will need a little more specific description than that, together with a series of examples to illustrate the various aspects and limits of variables. The examples could include, where available, the results of analytical or subjective smoking.

I am aware of the Reemtsma patent applications in South Africa and Germany (inventor Gewe) and the U.S. patent to Griffith et al, #3,174,485. If you know of other pertinent references, please let me know.

GEI:blp

cc: Dr. Eichorn
Dr. Hartung
Dr. Lowitz
Dr. Osdone

2026378868